

Claims

1. An apparatus comprising:
a grass mower having at least one cutting unit;
a grass catcher positioned adjacent the cutting unit, the grass catcher having a pair of side panels, an upper panel and a lower panel, and an opening between the upper panel and lower panel facing the cutting unit, and at least one retaining structure integrally formed with the lower panel adjacent the opening; and
a reinforcing member inserted through the at least one retaining structure.
2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the reinforcing member is generally cylindrical in shape.
3. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising at least three retaining structures formed integrally with the lower panel adjacent the opening.
4. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the retaining structure is a channel.
5. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the retaining structure is a passage.
6. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the retaining structure is an offset structure.
7. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein at least some of the reinforcing member is at least partially exposed facing upwardly.
8. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the reinforcing member is metal.
9. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising at least one access hole in a side panel through which the reinforcing member is inserted.
10. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the grass mower is a reel-type mower.

11. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the internal dimensions of the at least one retaining structure are not larger than the outer cross sectional dimension of the reinforcing member.

12. An apparatus comprising:

a one-piece box-shaped plastic grass catcher having an opening and a lower panel with a lip at the opening;

a reinforcing member positioned at the lower panel near the lip; and

at least one plastic retaining structure integrally formed with the box-shaped plastic grass catcher through which the reinforcing member may be inserted.

13. The apparatus of claim 12 further comprising a pair of opposing side panels on each side of the one-piece box-shaped plastic grass catcher, and an access hole through at least one of the opposing side panels through which the reinforcing member may be inserted.

14. The apparatus of claim 12 wherein the reinforcing member is a cylindrical metal rod.

15. The apparatus of claim 12 wherein the at least one plastic retaining structure is an offset structure.

16. The apparatus of claim 12 wherein the reinforcing member is gripped by the at least one plastic retaining structure by a press fit.

17. The apparatus of claim 13 wherein the reinforcing member has a length less than the span between the pair of opposing side panels.

18. An apparatus comprising:

a reinforced grass catcher having a reinforcing member attached thereto and retaining structures formed integrally therewith, the integral retaining structures being

the only structures holding the reinforcing member in place.

19. The apparatus of claim 18 wherein the reinforced grass catcher further comprises a plastic box-like structure having walls with substantially uniform thickness, each of the integral retaining structures having substantially the same thickness as the walls.

20. The apparatus of claim 18 further comprising a lower wall having a lip, the reinforcing member positioned adjacent the lip.

21. The apparatus of claim 20 wherein the lip is in a horizontal plane above at least some other portions of the lower wall.

22. The apparatus of claim 18 wherein the integral retaining structures have an internal dimension, and the reinforcing member has an outer cross sectional dimension no smaller than the internal dimension of the integral retaining structures.